

19990207.ba v02\_n419.bam.990207 v02\_n420.bam.990207

>From ???@??? Sun Feb 07 13:58:53 1999  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 11:08:14 CST  
From: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 2419  
Message-Id: <19990207165801.E7EF01256F@devel43.theporch.com>

BOATANCHORS Digest 2419

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) Re: WW2 Hallicrafters Spy Transceiver?  
by Kargokult@aol.com
- 2) Re: Resistors again...  
by "Barry L. Ornitz" <ornitz@tricon.net>
- 3) Junker rig list  
by thompson@mindspring.com
- 4) Re: WW-II Radio scenario help needed by author  
by Kargokult@aol.com
- 5) Re: No Jpegs Please!  
by "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 6) Re: Resistors again...  
by "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 7) Re: No Jpegs Please!  
by "Paul Christensen" <paulc@mediaone.net>
- 8) resistors  
by Morris Odell <morriso@vifp.monash.edu.au>
- 9) Converting L4-B to run an 8877  
by zeitler@ibm.net
- 10) Curse on you! > Turn Counter Spam  
by Larry Kayser <kayser@rideau.net>
- 11) Re: Converting L4-B to run an 8877  
by Jim Garland W8ZR <4CX250B@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>
- 12) RE: CX Contest  
by "Christopher A. Bowne" <radiobwn@riconnect.com>
- 13) RE: CX Contest  
by Dick Dillman <ddillman@igc.apc.org>
- 14) CX Exchange info  
by Glenn Finerman <glennfin@mjet.com>
- 15) For Sale: National NC-188  
by Robert Lawson <lawson\_r@popmail.firn.edu>
- 16) Re: counter.jpg  
by CARRJJ@aol.com
- 17) TODAY'S THE DAY!!!  
by MODSTEPH@ACS.EKU.EDU
- 18) New Radio - a 1927 Silver-Marshall - Round the World Four

by John Dilks <oldradio@worldnet.att.net>  
19) Re: counter.jpg  
by Charles Ring <charlesr@infonline.net>  
20) Re: Converting L4-B to run an 8877  
by Charles Ring <charlesr@infonline.net>

-----  
From: Kargokult@aol.com  
Message-ID: <cbca3902.36bd2c25@aol.com>  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 01:01:09 EST  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Subject: Re: WW2 Hallicrafters Spy Transceiver?  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

> I have been reading ..... "Bodyguard of Lies" by Anthony Cave  
> Brown..... how a Hallicrafters transceiver was used..... Two German  
> agents were discovered in Cairo operating from a  
> houseboat in the Nile river.... communicating with Rommel and ....  
> Athens was described as an American  
> Hallicrafters transceiver.

---i see a couple complications with this account. did the Halli equipment  
have BFO ? i don't think these marine xcvrs did, as they were intended  
for voice comms. even the big BC-669 ( HT-?? ) only had a BFO in its  
later military serial.

---also the frequency range was, i believe, about 1.6 - 5 mc/s for these  
sets. i would think this is an "iffy" limited choice of frequency for a set  
expecting to jump several hundred miles regularly. From reading i  
gather that "typical" WW2 spy, telegraphic radio activity took place in  
frequencies 4 - 9 mcs. certainly all the spy sets known, began around  
3 mcs. and continued thru 12 or 15 mc/s.

---i am wondering if the transmitter ( only ) was Halli. A transmitter would  
have been more difficult to obtain on the local civilian market, and might  
be reckoned as having a distinctive note.

as for discreet, i would think that in the 1940s, a houseboat having any  
kind of 2-way radio would be highly unusual, especially in an  
underdeveloped country. this was not anything like an outlying  
plantation station.

a very interesting story. i hope we can learn more about it.  
hue

-----  
From: "Barry L. Ornitz" <ornitz@tricon.net>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Cc: "Boatanchors Mailing List" <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: Resistors again...  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 01:09:46 -0500  
Message-ID: <01be5260\$75e78dc0\$424d62d8@ornitz.dpnnet.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Morris Odell wrote:

>I've been reading the resistor thread with quite a bit of interest. One  
>thing that has puzzled me at times is why the professionals use such  
>wierd values.

It impresses the uninformed! :- )      Actually these are the values that are  
available.

>For example, just taking a Tek manual at random we find  
>that in the output amplifier of the 1A1 plugin there are 46.4 and 61.9  
>ohm 1% resistors. Why wouldn't they specify 47 and 62 ohm 1% resistors?

There are no 47 and 62 ohm resistors in the standard E96 1% series. Either  
it is 46.4 or 47.5, and 61.9 or 63.4. If they went to the 47 and 62 ohm  
resistors, they would have to go to 5% tolerance units.

>The extra fraction of an ohm couldn't make that much difference and it  
>must have added considerably to the cost. You can find the same thing in  
>lots of top end equipment by HP, Tek and others of that standard.

But with these 1% resistors, you are assured that the value is pretty  
close. The 5 or 10% resistors might have too much variance. Also in  
earlier days, the 1% resistors were manufactured to be more reliable than  
the cheap carbon composition units.

>I'm not talking attenuators here - I know the values there are "special"  
>but in amplifiers and power supplies where operating conditions are  
>often trimmed with variable adjustments anyway, there must be something  
>I'm missing.

Again, I think this is because the old RN60 resistors were more stable and  
reliable. They were film resistors too with all the advantages this  
brings. I have some RN60 resistors from the 1950's that have not changed  
value as near as I can tell, but many carbon composition units of the same  
vintage have drifted up.

73,      Barry L. Ornitz      WA4VZQ      ornitz@tricon.net

-----  
From: thompson@mindspring.com  
Message-ID: <004f01be5262\$8e389ca0\$aada545cf@default>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Junker rig list  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 01:24:44 -0500

I have noticed the number of junker rigs mentioned and wonder if the gang remember we have a junker list in the BA archives. It would be nice to update this for all of us trying to restore an old rig or repair some old BA and remember much of the Drake gear now falls into this category.

Dave K4JRB

-----  
From: Kargokult@aol.com  
Message-ID: <5971688b.36bd3a69@aol.com>  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 02:02:01 EST  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Cc: JReveal@worldnet.att.net  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Subject: Re: WW-II Radio scenario help needed by author  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

oldradio@worldnet.att.net forwarded:

> .....a novel I am writing that is set during WWII.

> One of my characters is with the French Resistance brought to  
> America.... He has a transmitter with him....Every time he uses  
> the device, however, it interferes with the standard radios in the  
> apartment building ....

> Okay, okay...so , how implausible is this?

---interesting coincidence. i interviewed a gentleman who was on a raid of a house in upstate new york where german agents operated a radio. the location was pinpointed by this: not triangulation or monitoring, but because a "nosey neighbor woman" was upset with "keyclick" interference to her soap opera serials. ( "keyclick" is just that, a clicking or thumping sound like old-time telegraphy over a sounder, not the tone or whistle heard at the headquarters radio.) she went to the local Navy recruiter, who went to Naval Intelligence ( ONI ), which worked with the FCC.  
QST some years back had a "Stray" item where a ham claimed to have turned in Axis agents in, i believe, Brooklyn, after he heard CW ( code keying ) from an open window and also saw the power

meter jumping in time????? This was in QST i think somewhere in the years 1975 - 1986. perhaps someone with QST on CD can find this.

Also, if you can somewhere find a video of the Dutch film, "Soldier of Orange", circa 1970s late, or maybe early 80s, you can get a general idea of it looked and felt like to do clandestine radio operating - altho that environment was more cruel & violent than operating in the USA was. ( The Nazis would never have let the agents so easily escape, as did the ONI & FCC agents in the NewYork incident. )

> If it is not an unrealistic  
> scenario, I need to find information on what this equipment would look  
> like, how it would operate, what types of "tubes" would be in it, etc.

---probably a generic description would be like the size of a smallish around town suitcase or a briefcase a little undersized but fatter, deeper. and a whole lot heavier. there's an out of print book by H K Melton, "Secret Weapons of the OSS" that has fine illustrations of typical gear. If you can find it, it will be about \$20 - 50. Also, as an easier access - there's one in the Time-Life WW2 series, called i think, "The Secret War", with excellent photos, and this can often be found at pre-owned book shops.

---as far as down to the tubes level, isn't that more detail than your story should have, unless for radio nut audience?

> I have one scene where one of the tubes fails and he steals a  
> replacement from his landlord's big, floor model.

---you mean exchange, not just leaving empty socket? however - well equiped agents would likely have some spares on hand. seems a little too unlikely the agent would burglarize the landlord, not knowing whether the home radio would have the correct item.

If this could have

> been real, but is flawed, can you tell me where I might research this  
> type of equipment?

>

> Of course, this is what fiction is all about, but if I wrote the book  
> with these scenes, and you or one of your members read the book and  
> determined the whole thing to be ludicrous, wouldn't I look foolish!

---most fiction authors IMO ( my bias ) can't be bothered with issues of fact, liklihood. this author is to be commended for doing the fact checking before publication!

hue

-----  
Message-Id: <199902070747.XAA17431@mail-gw5.pacbell.net>  
From: "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: No Jpegs Please!  
Date: Sat, 6 Feb 1999 23:28:26 -0800  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> Seems kinda funny to me that we can all fix fifty year old radios and  
> such,  
> but most of us have not yet figured out how to set the download size  
> limit  
> in our mail software. That way when someone sends that large file, and  
> someone will again, you wont be troubled by it. Don't complain so much,  
> just adjust your software.

Thanks for the clue Dave. I set mine to 50K. But we still have to  
consider Jack's server getting all clogged up with huge files. I'm sure  
it's just a matter of informing those who don't understand the operating  
constraints of an e-mail list. Thanks for your concern.

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

-----  
Message-Id: <199902070747.XAA17442@mail-gw5.pacbell.net>  
From: "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Cc: <boatanchors@sco.theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: Resistors again...  
Date: Sat, 6 Feb 1999 23:53:35 -0800  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Morris;

> I've been reading the resistor thread with quite a bit of interest. One  
> thing that has puzzled me at times is why the professionals use such  
> wierd values. For example, just taking a Tek manual at random we find  
> that in the output amplifier of the 1A1 plugin there are 46.4 and 61.9  
> ohm 1% resistors. Why wouldn't they specify 47 and 62 ohm 1% resistors?  
> The extra fraction of an ohm couldn't make that much difference and it  
> must have added considerably to the cost. You can find the same thing in  
> lots of top end equipment by HP, Tek and others of that standard.  
>  
> I'm not talking attenuators here - I know the values there are "special"

> but in amplifiers and power supplies where operating conditions are  
> often trimmed with variable adjustments anyway, there must be something  
> I'm missing.

Electronics is full of quandaries such as the one you present. The best answer is, I believe, due to the economics of mass production. A practical engineer specifies values based on availability of components. Common off-the-shelf values exist because of the self-reinforcing process of the more that are made, the more that are sold, the more that are made, the more.....ad infinitum. A well-established manufacturing process produces the most consistent (not necessarily the best) quality and most economical components. 61.9 ohms is a value of the 1% tolerance sequence of values, the derivation of which was recently well described in other posts. This sequence of values is much more commonly supplied than 62 ohms and its brethren because 62 ohms really belongs to the 5% tolerance sequence. A 62 ohm 1% resistor is really an anachronism. And there is also the "fickle factor", some engineers just suffer from obsessive attachments to certain types of components.....kinda like love of BA's!

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

-----  
Message-ID: <01c201be529b\$4a6fc500\$eb2d8118@se.mediaone.net>  
From: "Paul Christensen" <paulc@mediaone.net>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: No Jpegs Please!  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 08:10:52 -0500  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> But we still have to consider Jack's server getting all clogged up with  
huge files.

It seems to me the logical place for the filtering is through Jack's server, not in our client e-mail software. As someone already pointed out, there are times when I expect a large file attachment from someone via direct e-mail.

Perhaps Jack can interject and let us know how difficult it would be for him to filter out all message over a predetermined byte size.

-Paul, W9AC

-----  
Message-ID: <36BD959F.AAB9E02B@vifp.monash.edu.au>  
Date: Mon, 08 Feb 1999 00:31:12 +1100

From: Morris Odell <morriso@vifp.monash.edu.au>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: resistors  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi all,

I received quite a few replies from the professionals on this list about my resistor question. The breadth and quality of the knowledge base on the list really amazes me. I learnt something today I didn't know before and got taught it in a friendly precise and didactic way from each of you in your own unique styles.

This is one of the best virtual communities to which I have ever belonged

Thanks and 73 to all

Morris VK3DOC

-----  
From: zeitler@ibm.net  
Message-ID: <002401be52a3\$765e7000\$8d292581@km3g>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Converting L4-B to run an 8877  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 06:09:19 -0800  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
        charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gents,

I have (finally) come accross some 8877 tubes from a semi-local source. With the demise of Eimac as a 3-500Z manufacturer I was considering converting my Drake L4-B to run a single 8877. I have a copy (somewhere) of the now legendary Peter Warren article from the 1984 or 85 issue of CQ magazine (the good years, before McCoy starting advertising, er, I mean writing the equipment reviews) and found it very interesting.

Any thoughts or concerns regarding the tube swap, good, bad, or indifferent?

Any word from Svetlana in regards to when they will be releasing the 3-600?

Lane Zeitler  
Ku7i



-----  
Message-Id: <2.2.32.19990207145258.0148e20c@rideau.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 09:52:58 -0500  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
From: Larry Kayser <kayser@rideau.net>  
Subject: Curse on you! > Turn Counter Spam

Jack:

Please, Please put a filter on this reflector to stop people who have lost their ability to consistently make rational decisions. 1.2 Megabyte files, with pixels 3/32 inch square, are obscene and abuse of paid-in-full members.

Please

May the sender receive one thousand copies in return.....

Larry  
VA3LK / WA3ZIA

-----  
Message-Id: <v03102801b2e34446777f@[134.53.65.12]>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 10:01:25 -0400  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
From: Jim Garland W8ZR <4CX250B@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>  
Subject: Re: Converting L4-B to run an 8877

With  
>the demise of Eimac as a 3-500Z manufacturer I was considering converting my  
>Drake L4-B to run a single 8877. ....  
>Any thoughts or concerns regarding the tube swap, good, bad, or indifferent?  
  
>Lane Zeitler  
>Ku7i

Hi Lane,

Although I've never attempted it, I doubt that modifying the L4-B to run an 8877 would be a worthwhile effort. The biggest mechanical challenge would be to provide adequate cooling for the 8877. As I recall (I owned an L4-B, years ago), the cooling through the 3-500Z chimneys is with low velocity air, from which I infer that little back pressure is developed by the blower. One of the delights of the L4-B is how quiet it is. This benefit, unfortunately, suggests the airflow would be inadequate for the higher flow

impedance of the 8877's external anode. You'd probably have to squeeze a larger blower into an already-crowded cabinet, which could pose significant mechanical layout problems.

Another drawback is that the L4-B circuitry would be significantly underutilizing the 8877's capability. (Of course, if the tubes are cheap and plentiful, then who cares!) Keep in mind, however, that an 8877 really hums at 4KV plate voltage, whereas the L-4B power supply only puts out about 2700V. Furthermore, the 8877 is rated up to 1 ampere of plate current, which would far exceed the capacity of the relatively small plate transformer in the L4-B power supply. Replacing the plate transformer to raise the voltage would result in a higher plate load impedance for the Pi-network tank circuit. Although you could probably get away without changing the tank circuit, the loaded Q of the circuit wouldn't be optimal. With an 8877, you would have to redo the input network values, which is a minor nuisance. You'd also have to increase the bias to about 8V -- again, a minor task.

The bigger problem is that modifying the amplifier to produce more power would stress the bandswitch, antenna relay, etc.---all of which would make the amplifier unreliable. If you still want to make the switch, and can figure out how to solve the cooling problem, then be prepared to accept the fact that the 8877 will only be running at about half capacity.

I'd think a better substitute would be a 3CX800A7, which is the little brother (sister?) of the 8877. This little triode is an outstanding performer. Although rated for CCS service at 2250V, it will handle nicely the L4-B's higher plate voltage. It will run key-down all day at 600mA of plate current, and can be loaded to higher values for intermittent SSB service -- just right for the L4-B power supply. Its cooling requirements are modest, and there's a good chance you could adequately cool it with the existing blower. Although the 3CX800A7 only is rated at 800W plate dissipation (compared to 1000W for the pair of 3-500Zs), this difference is nothing to worry about: the L4-B doesn't come close to running its tubes at 1000W dissipation. One caveat: you'd have to put in a separate filament xfmr for the 3CX800A7. However the filament requirements (13.5V @ 1.5A) are very modest, so that a tiny xfmr is needed.

I recently converted an old Alpha 76PA junker to a six-meter amp, and swapped its 8874s for a single 3CX800A7. It was a very fun project, and went smoothly. The tube is amazing.

73,

Jim Garland W8ZR

-----  
Message-ID: <01BE5285.14739640@mys24.riconnect.com>  
From: "Christopher A. Bowne" <radiobwn@riconnect.com>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: RE: CX Contest  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 10:31:49 -0500

There were several confusing postings a few weeks back regarding the times of the CX. What time does it run today (Sunday 2/7/99)?

73,

Chris Bowne, AJ1G  
Stonington, CT  
radiobwn@riconnect.com  
AMI No. 211

-----  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 07:55:30 -0800 (PST)  
Message-Id: <2.2.16.19990207075335.44ef50c4@pop.igc.org>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
From: Dick Dillman <ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
Subject: RE: CX Contest

At 10:31 AM 2/7/99 -0500, Christopher A. Bowne wrote:

>There were several confusing postings a few weeks back regarding the times  
of the CX. What time does it run >today (Sunday 2/7/99)?

Greetings, Chris. Here's the information I'm going by, courtest of WB2AWQ:

=====

#### 1999 Spring Classic Radio Exchange

1900 UTC February 7, to 0400 UTC February 8, 1999. Exchange name, RST, QTH(state/province for US/Canada; country for DX), receiver and transmitter type (homebrew send final amp tube or transistor), and other interesting conversation. Work stations once per band, mode, and equipment combination. CW call "CQ CX;" phone call "CQ Classic Exchange."  
Non-participants may be worked for credit. Suggested frequencies: CW: 3.545, 7.045, 14.045, 21.135, 28.180 Novice/Tech Plus: 3.695, 7.120, 21.135, 28.180 Phone: 3.880, 7.290, 14.280, 21.380, 28.320.

Scoring: Multiply total QSO's (all bands) by total number of different receivers plus transmitters (transceivers count as both xmtr and rcvr) plus states/provinces/countries worked on each band and mode. Multiply that by CX Multiplier (total years old of all receivers and transmitters used, three QSO's minimum per unit. Transceiver X2, homebrew X 25, unless older. Send logs to Allan Stephens, 106 Bobolink Dr, Richmond, KY 40475. Include TWO-stamp SASE for next CX Newsletter and announcement of next CX. E-mail reports may be sent to modsteph@acs.eku.edu (Al, N5AIT).

=====

Regards,

Dick

Dick Dillman  
<ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
WPE2VT W6AWO  
Collector Of Heavy Metal:  
Harleys, Willys and Radios Over 100lbs.

-----  
Message-Id: <199902071556.JAA01065@sco.theporch.com>  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 11:01:42 -0500  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
From: Glenn Finerman <glennfin@mjet.com>  
Subject: CX Exchange info  
Cc: boatanchors@theporch.com  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Today's the day!!!!!!

Here's the info so many of you have asked about....

1999 Winter Classic (& Homebrew) Radio Exchange

The Classic Radio Exchange ("CX") is a contest celebrating the older commercial and homebrew equipment that was the pride of our ham shacks and our bands just a few short decades ago. Our object is to encourage restoration, operation and enjoyment of this older equipment. A "Classic" radio is at least ten years old (age figured from first year of manufacture), but NOT required to participate in the Classic Exchange. YOU MAY USE ANYTHING in the contest, although new gear is a distinct scoring liability. You can still work the "great ones" with your new equipment!

The Classic Exchange will run from 2000 UTC February 7, to 0500 UTC February 8, 1999. Exchange your name, RST, QTH(state/province for US/Canada; country for DX), receiver and transmitter type (homebrew send final amp tube or transistor), and other interesting conversation.

The same station may be worked with different equipment combinations on each band and on each mode. CW call "CQ CX;" phone call "CQ Classic Exchange." Non-participants may be worked for credit.

Suggested frequencies:

CW: 3.545, 7.045, 14.045, 21.135, 28.180

Novice/Tech Plus: 3.695, 7.120, 21.135, 28.180

Phone: 3.880, 7.290, 14.280, 21.380, 28.320 7.045 and 3.545 will probably be the most popular CX frequencies.

Scoring:

Multiply total QSO's (all bands) by total number of different receivers plus transmitters (transceivers count as both xmtr and rcvr) plus states/provinces/countries worked on each band and mode. Multiply that total by your CX Multiplier, the total years old of all receivers and transmitters used, three QSO's minimum per unit. For transceiver, multiply age by two. If equipment is homebrew, count it as a minimum of 25 years old unless actual construction date or date of its construction article (in the case of a reproduction) is older: Total QSO's all bands times RCVRs + XMTRs + states/provinces/countries (total each band and mode separately; add totals together) times CX Multiplier:

SCORE = QSO's x ( Rx + Tx + QTH's) x CX Mult

Certificates and appropriate memorabilia are awarded every now and then for the highest score, the longest DX, exotic equipment, best excuses and other unusual achievements. Send logs, comments, anecdotes, pictures to Allan Stephens, 106 Bobolink Dr., Richmond, KY 40475. Include TWO-stamp SASE for next CX Newsletter and announcement of next CX.

E-mail reports may be sent to modsteph@acs.eku.edu (A1, N5AIT).

73.....Glenn Finerman K2KL

glennfin@mjet.com

-----  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 09:58:54 -0500  
From: Robert Lawson <lawson\_r@popmail.firn.edu>  
Subject: For Sale: National NC-188  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Cc: boatanchors@sco.theporch.com  
Message-id: <36BDAA2E.370E@popmail.firn.edu>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

For Sale: National NC-188 receiver. Excellent condition. Retubed and aligned. Original paint and knobs. No scratches or dents. Photocopy of manual. \$125.00 plus shipping from 32514.

Robert WPE4FGR W4RL Pensacola Florida

-----  
From: CARRJJ@aol.com  
Message-ID: <9a9a0bb.36bdba02@aol.com>  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 11:06:26 EST  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Subject: Re: counter.jpg  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 2/6/99 9:54:38 PM Eastern Standard Time, rparker@istar.ca writes:

<< boatanchors@theporch.com >>

-----  
The recommendation that we all vindicatively send a large e-mail file back to someone who made the error of sending it out is immoral and just plain evil. Indeed, it would be a criminal act under legislation pending in Congress. What kind of people do we have on this list? Radio folks have traditionally been the best and the brightest...now I am not so sure. Grow up.

-----  
From: MODSTEPH@ACS.EKU.EDU  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 11:33:02 -0500 (EST)  
Subject: TODAY'S THE DAY!!!  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Message-id: <01J7GLCQEGG200A57K@ACS.EKU.EDU>  
MIME-version: 1.0  
Content-type: TEXT/PLAIN; CHARSET=US-ASCII

...so if you miss it, it's your own fault.

"CX" - Classic Radio Exchange, THE time for getting all the boatanchors and the like on the air, or to get on the air with the latest brand-new toy and WORK the "classic" rigs... tha's it!

Today 2000 UTC (3 PM Easter Standard) to Mon 0500 UTC (midnight tonight).. Nine hour operating event. Today! Soon!

...and I'll miss the first couple of hours since I have to pick up the XYL at the airport... but I'll be along eventually!

And if anyone missed the announcement... too bad. But if you REALLY need it for the contest info, e-mail me and I'll try to get back after I get back from the airport.

73 and CU in CX!!

Al N5AIT  
modsteph@acs.eku.edu

-----  
Message-ID: <36BDC2F1.5D49@worldnet.att.net>  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 11:44:33 -0500  
From: John Dilks <oldradio@worldnet.att.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: New Radio - a 1927 Silver-Marshall - Round the World Four  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

To all,

New radio at K2TQN's, a 1927 Silver-Marshall Round the World Four. You might like to see what one of these looks like. Photo, Description and a Schmatic are on the web page.

<http://www.eht.com/oldradio/k2tqn/sm-1927/>

I need 3 Silver-Marshall plug-in coils, I only received one coil with it:

"131-U" - 31 to 58 meters.  
"131-V" - 56 to 110 meters.

"131-W" - 105 to 204 meters.

Thanks, 73' John Dilks, K2TQN

---

Please visit my OldRadio Museum  
<http://www.eht.com/oldradio/museum>

Webmaster for the Antique Wireless Association  
<http://www.ggw.org/awa> Click on "Page 2"

--and--

for the New Jersey Antique Radio Club  
<http://www.eht.com/oldradio>

-

-----  
Message-ID: <36BDC742.F6C7BC5D@infonline.net>  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 12:02:59 -0500  
From: Charles Ring <charlesr@infonline.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: counter.jpg  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

CARRJJ@aol.com wrote:

> In a message dated 2/6/99 9:54:38 PM Eastern Standard Time, rparker@istar.ca  
> writes:  
>  
> << boatanchors@theporch.com >>  
> -----  
> The recommendation that we all vindicatively send a large e-mail file back to  
> someone who made the error of sending it out is immoral and just plain evil.  
> Indeed, it would be a criminal act under legislation pending in Congress. What  
> kind of people do we have on this list? Radio folks have traditionally been  
> the best and the brightest...now I am not so sure. Grow up.

You are 100% right. The man made an honest mistake, apologized for it, and that should be the end of it. He had no idea he was causing a problem. He knows now and won't repeat it. Finis.

73 de W3NU



-----  
Message-ID: <36BDC86B.E82CD827@infonline.net>  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 12:07:55 -0500  
From: Charles Ring <charlesr@infonline.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
CC: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: Converting L4-B to run an 8877  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

zeitler@ibm.net wrote:

> Gents,  
> I have (finally) come accross some 8877 tubes from a semi-local source. With  
> the demise of Eimac as a 3-500Z manufacturer I was considering converting my  
> Drake L4-B to run a single 8877. I have a copy (somewhere) of the now  
> legendary Peter Warren article from the 1984 or 85 issue of CQ magazine (the  
> good years, before McCoy starting advertising, er, I mean writing the  
> equipment reviews) and found it very interesting.  
>  
> Any thoughts or concerns regarding the tube swap, good, bad, or indifferent?  
>  
> Any word from Svetlana in regards to when they will be releasing the 3-600?  
>  
> Lane Zeitler  
> Ku7i

I've had reliability problems (intermittent shorts) using the Eimac 8877 in FM broadcast service. Seems that metal filings get loose inside the tube; don't know why or how. It was real hard to diagnose first time it happened as one expects a shorted tube to stay shorted.

73 de W3NU

-----  
End of BOATANCHORS Digest 2419  
\*\*\*\*\*

>From ???@??? Mon Feb 08 03:13:42 1999  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 22:49:28 CST

From: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 2420  
Message-Id: <19990208043916.B98C0120C7@devel43.theporch.com>

BOATANCHORS Digest 2420

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) Re: Converting L4-B to run an 8877  
by John R Bookout K7JB <k7jb@uswest.net>
- 2) military tube tester question  
by Phil Mills <pmills@a.crl.com>
- 3) WTB:Boonton 250A Parts Unit  
by Paul Monroe <pmonroe@inwave.com>
- 4) RE: Converting L4-B to run an 8877  
by "Ed Tanton" <n4xy@mindspring.com>
- 5) Interesting Transmitter Problem...  
by Jack Harper <jharper@bsi2000.com>
- 6) Re: Interesting Transmitter Problem...  
by "James C. Garland" <4cx250b@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>
- 7) Re: Converting L4-B to run an 8877  
by "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>
- 8) BAs in Jacksonville?  
by ail0@lehigh.edu (ARTHUR I. LARKY)
- 9) Re: Interesting Transmitter Problem...  
by Scott Robinson <spr@earthlink.net>
- 10) Re: WW-II Radio scenario help needed by author  
by "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>
- 11) Pictures and the Reflector  
by David Stinson <arc5@ix.netcom.com>
- 12) Re: WW-II Radio scenario help needed by author  
by CARRJJ@aol.com
- 13) CX Report  
by Dick Dillman <ddillman@igc.apc.org>
- 14) Re: WW-II Radio scenario help needed by author  
by Jerry Proc <jproc@idirect.com>
- 15) 1952 Callbook Lookup?  
by "Jay H. Miller" <jmiller@teleteam.net>
- 16) Heathkit mic. question  
by JONWEINER@aol.com
- 17) Re: Interesting Transmitter Problem...  
by "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 18) Re: Converting L4-B to run an 8877  
by "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>
- 19) Tube question  
by Morris Odell <morriso@vifp.monash.edu.au>

-----  
Message-ID: <36BDCC93.6FA9F8C@ptld.uswest.net>  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 09:25:39 -0800  
From: John R Bookout K7JB <k7jb@uswest.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
CC: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: Converting L4-B to run an 8877  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

WARNING TO ALL:

DO NOT DISASSEMBLE any ceramic tube. The ceramic material is made with Beryllium and the ceramic dust is highly toxic! Just leave it alone!

Best 73's, John K7JB.

-----  
Charles Ring wrote:

>  
> zeitler@ibm.net wrote:  
>  
> > Gents,  
> > I have (finally) come accross some 8877 tubes from a semi-local source. With  
> > the demise of Eimac as a 3-500Z manufacturer I was considering converting my  
> > Drake L4-B to run a single 8877. I have a copy (somewhere) of the now  
> > legendary Peter Warren article from the 1984 or 85 issue of CQ magazine (the  
> > good years, before McCoy starting advertising, er, I mean writing the  
> > equipment reviews) and found it very interesting.  
> >  
> > Any thoughts or concerns regarding the tube swap, good, bad, or indifferent?  
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> broadcast service. Seems that metal filings get loose inside the tube; don't  
> know why or how. It was real hard to diagnose first time it happened as one  
> expects a shorted tube to stay shorted.  
>  
> 73 de W3NU

--  
Best 73's John  
Amateur Radio K7JB -- Portland Oregon 97229

[K7JB is looking for a 30S1 for his Collins S-line station.]

-----  
Message-Id: <3.0.1.32.19990207112432.00691cd8@a.crl.com>  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 11:24:32 -0600  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
From: Phil Mills <pmills@a.crl.com>  
Subject: military tube tester question  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I've had a TV-7 and currently use a TV-2. I've just come across a TV-3 which appears to be a transconductance type of tester. Can someone please give me a quick rundown of the merits or lack thereof for the various military testers? Should I keep the TV-3 and trade off the TV-2 or vice versa?

thanks & 73,  
Phil  
Phil Mills AB5TH  
pmills@a.crl.com  
Friendswood, TX

-----  
Message-ID: <36BDD02A.9F90947@inwave.com>  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 11:40:58 -0600  
From: Paul Monroe <pmonroe@inwave.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: WTB:Boonton 250A Parts Unit  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi,

Does anyone out there have a Boonton 250A junker? The oscillator assembly in my unit has a tuning capacitor with a busted shaft (they are made out of steatite) and I need to replace it.

73,

Paul, W9MEH

-----  
From: "Ed Tanton" <n4xy@mindspring.com>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Cc: <zeitler@ibm.net>

Subject: RE: Converting L4-B to run an 8877  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 13:18:04 -0500  
Message-ID: <000801be52c6\$345c77b0\$01010101@n4xy>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="Windows-1252"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well I'll give you my 2 cents Lane... if your Drake is no better than "less-than-good" condition, I guess so-reluctantly. If, on the other hand, it's vy-good to excellent, NO WAY!!!

72 / 73 Ed N4XY email: <n4xy@mindspring.com>

-----  
Message-Id: <4.1.19990207102506.00b2ab60@mail.pcisys.net>  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 11:56:17 -0700  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
From: Jack Harper <jharper@bsi2000.com>  
Subject: Interesting Transmitter Problem...  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hello all...

I am (still!) working on the Hammarlund HX-50 transmitter that I am restoring.

It has been, to say the least, an interesting process -- I have learned a lot as this is in reality the first relatively complex transmitter that I have ever really dug into to.

To date, I have replaced all of the electrolytic and paper capacitors; checked all tubes and replaced four; replaced a broken crystal in the L0 (15M was dead); found and replaced a number of resistors that had floated up in value; found three(!) unsoldered connections; replaced the old two-wire power cord with a three-wire; fixed some problems in the HV power supply; and a gaggle of other things. I also, of course, cleaned the thing -- it was quite dirty inside -- looks like an electrolytic capacitor might have let go years ago -- shreds of some sort of black goo were scattered here and about -- that's all cleaned up now. Could have been worse -- at least there was no cat pee... :)

The Symptom of the Day is this: The unit is putting out a very nice signal but way too much power -- 70 watts or so into my dummy load which is way too much for the 6DQ5 PA final. The PA Cathode current meter pegs and the RF Drive control seems to have little or no effect -- it's 70 watts out or nothing.

When I tune the transmitter, the manual says to advance the RF Drive until the PA Cathode meter indicates 100 MA; adjust PA Tuning and PA Load for resonance; and then advance the RF Drive until about 180 MA indicates. But my PA Cathode meter pegs (look like maybe 250 MA or so) even with the RF Drive at zero.

The interesting thing to me is that I watch the signals from stage to stage with my trusty oscilloscope -- The HX-50 uses heterodyne techniques by starting at 3038 Kc with a crystal controlled 6C10 oscillator; running that through a 6EW6 3Mc bandpass amplifier; mixing that with (e.g., for 20M) 23.535 Mc from a 6AW8 crystal controlled oscillator in a 6AW8 mixer; running the resultant about 20 Mc signal into the second 6BA7 mixer that gets a 5.9-6.5 Mc (about) signal from the 6AU6 VFO to result in an about 14 Mc final signal that goes to a 12BY7 driver amplifier that goes to the dreaded 6DQ5 sweep tube PA.

With the scope (about 60Mc freq response), I can watch the signals -- I see that the RF Drive potentiometer nicely controls the signal (~ 0.8 volt max RF at 3038 Kc) coming out of the 6EW6 bandpass amplifier (the RF Drive pot is connected to the 6EW6 cathode); it also nicely controls the 6AW8 first mixer (~2.5 volts RF); but I see no control of the RF coming from the plate of the second mixer (6BA7) -- it is just on at about 1.5volts of RF regardless of the RF Drive setting even though the incoming grid signal does vary by the RF Drive pot.

I also notice that when I attach the scope probe to the plate of the 6EW6 bandpass amplifier, that the transmitter works correctly in that I can control its output with the RF Drive control -- I assume that the scope is loading down the circuit enough to attenuate the RF so that the final output is controllable.

I have checked all tube socket resistances and voltages and they are all within 20%. I also measured the 6DQ5 cathode current through a small one-ohm resistor to make sure that the meter in the transmitter is not defective and my external measurement, in fact, agrees. So, its not the meter -- its really pegged.

It seems to me that the second mixer (6BA7) is possibly not working correctly as the RF Drive has no effect from its plate on. But the voltages and resistances are OK -- I also checked the tube itself and its OK. I have no idea what the signal levels (RF) should be but 1 - 2 volts RF sounds right to me -- but then I really don't know. I would think that an open or shorted capacitor would mean no signal at all...

Any ideas or suggestions greatly appreciated. What am I missing?

Best regards to all...

Jack, W0YJ (Friend to all things Hammarlund)

-----  
Jack Harper  
303-231-9095

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Lakewood, Colorado USA

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Visit our Web Page: <http://www.bsi2000.com> (Last Update: 990101)  
-----

-----  
Message-Id: <3.0.1.32.19990207141922.00699dd4@miavx1.muohio.edu>  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 14:19:22 -0500  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
From: "James C. Garland" <4cx250b@miavx1.acs.muohio.edu>  
Subject: Re: Interesting Transmitter Problem...  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Jack,  
Sounds like you're making great progress on the HX-50! You're almost home!

Your problem sounds to me like an oscillation in the output stage. If you're not getting any drive into the finals, and the output is 100W of r.f., then that seems to me the most likely explanation. The reason the rig works with the scope probe in place is that the probe capacitance is damping out the instability. You can check out this hypothesis by listening to the transmitter on a receiver, and also by trying it in the SSB mode to see if the meter kicks up with voice modulation. I'm guessing modulation won't make any difference.

I'd check to make sure the parasitic suppressors are in good shape. Make sure all the chassis screws near the r.f. compartment are tight, and that no shields are loose on any interconnecting cables. You also might try unplugging one of the finals temporarily, just to see if that calms things down.

Your problem could also be traced to a misalignment difficulty, or possibly a neutralization problem. Check the operating bias on the finals, as well. If it's too low then the output stage may be unstable and also run too hot.

Good luck!

73,

Jim garland W8ZR

-----  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 14:47:07 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: Converting L4-B to run an 8877  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.96.990207141754.15735C-100000@indy2>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi, Gang!

Sorry, but this is--in general--not true:

On Sun, 7 Feb 1999, John R Bookout K7JB wrote:

> WARNING TO ALL:  
> DO NOT DISASSEMBLE any ceramic tube. The ceramic material is made with  
> Beryllium and the ceramic dust is highly toxic! Just leave it alone!

John's comments are well-meant but you will usually *\*not\** find beryllium oxide ceramic used in *\*air-cooled\** transmitting tubes. It's just plain old ceramic, the exact same kind of stuff Coors cold-filters beer with and makes HV insulators from. (And you thought they were advertising to power crews! ...Okay, *\*I\** did, you're probably brighter than that).

*\*Conduction\** *\*cooled\** tubes (and some semiconductor devices and high-power "chip" resistors) do use this stuff, which is very, very bad for you; ARRL handbooks of some years past had an amp project using conduction-cooled tubes with *\*really\** bad advice. One is best off avoiding such tubes (etc.).

I get paid to work on a couple of nearly new TV transmitters, "safe, modern designs" with BeO ceramic used in power transistors in driver amps in one ("Do not attempt field repair," it sez) and load resistors in combiners in another ("handle with extreme care" they say, a pretty good idea considering they're in some major airflow and the toxic dust would get *\*everywhere!\**).

But because it is so nasty, nobody uses it where they don't have to. Air-cooled tubes do not need the improved thermal conductivity BeO offers; they've got big ol' finned external anodes through which to haul away the heat. Most water-cooled tubes, likewise, but I don't know 'em as well and maybe somebody has used BeO there to avoid the need for great purity (non-conductivity!) of the coolant.



What gets this particular misunderstanding started is the generic warning sheet included with all ceramic & metal transmitting tubes, which specifically mentions BeO ceramic, but doesn't go into much detail about what tubes use it. (The pink ceramic you see on some air-cooled Ceramalog power tubes is not BeO, either; it's some cheaper formulation Burle and a few of the other mfrs. use sometimes).

I should point out that there are plenty of other reasons not to mess about trying to bash open ceramic transmitting tubes nor fiddle with ones that have broken in service (you can cause them to crack by mistuning while operating at or near rated power, just guess how I know).

The ceramic is usually razor-sharp where it breaks and the filament is a nice hunk of thoriated tungsten, brittle and composed of many fine wires in a mesh structure; it's not much thorium but the recommended daily allowance is zero or less. So you shouldn't play with broken ceramic tubes, but BeO is not the reason. (And just ignore the 4CX24,000A plate/radiator used as a pencil holder on my bench at work--the ceramic broke clean and we disposed of the other half with all the innards attached in a proper manner).

73,  
--Bobbi

(One time at work, we had a tube break in the socket and--for reasons too complex to explain--a whole bunch of other techies were at the site. All exited the room muttering about BeO, except for the Corporate Chief & me--we both read \*all\* the fine print, you see, and had spent more time around Great Big Tubes than the rest of the gang! But better believe we wore gloves, those tubes are a \*bear\* to unseat from a VHF cavity with the plate structure broken off and sharp edges all around.)

KB9GKX "RJ" rbarmore@indy.net Roberta J. (Bobbi) Barmore  
FISTS #3388 \* G-QRP #10001 \* ARRL \* RSGB \* WIA  
Appreciator Of Vacuum-Tube Ham Gear and Vintage Keys

-----  
Message-Id: <199902071948.0AA37664@ns4-1.CC.Lehigh.EDU>  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 14:48:26 EST  
From: ail0@lehigh.edu (ARTHUR I. LARKY)  
Subject: BAs in Jacksonville?  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

I expect to be in Jacksonville, FL with a free afternoon on Wednesday the 10th. Are there any interesting BA sites within walking or cab distance of downtown? (I don't know where I will be staying yet, so I can't be more precise; downtown is a guess.)

Thanks,

Art K3HBA

-----  
Message-Id: <v03007802b2e39e7b12ee@[208.255.75.19]>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 11:50:39 -0800  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
From: Scott Robinson <spr@earthlink.net>  
Subject: Re: Interesting Transmitter Problem...

H'mmm...

Could it be that you have a shield somewhere whose mounting (rivets, perhaps?) has corroded so that it is no longer grounded and RF is bypassing a controlled stage? This is easy to check. I'd solder bond all shields to the chassis, if it's not aluminum, if it were me doing this.

Regards,

Scott Robinson  
spr@earthlink.net

Junque is GOOD for you!

-----  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 15:55:59 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>, JReveal@worldnet.att.net  
Subject: Re: WW-II Radio scenario help needed by author  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.96.990207153428.19100A-1000000@indy3>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi!

Have to admit, I wonder what a member of the French Resistance is doing, operating \*clandestinely\* in the US--thought we were on the same side in that war?

However...the typical small "spy radio" of WW II used a single-tube transmitter, typically one of the kind of tubes used in the audio output

of a fancy radio--6L6 is the most likely but in a pinch, any of the 6L6/6F6/6K6 family would do, as they all have the same base connections.

Pat Hawker, of the "Technical Topic's" column in RSGB's magazine, Radcom, was on the receiving side (Britain) of the Dutch clandestine operation in WW II, and that's what the agents used, a nifty little 6L6 single-tube transmitter. Alas, the whole radio outfit (transmitter, a simple receiver, power supply, Morse key, antenna wire, etc.) was supplied in a small valise of distinctive appearance, which resulted in the immediate capture of some radio ops when the Germans recognized the thing!

...I am a little concerned that so small (low-powered) a transmitter would be \*capable\* of reliable communication from the US to continental Europe. By proper choice of frequencies, times, with a good antenna and very good luck, it's barely plausible, but only just. Much shorter distances were typical of OSS-type operations of the sort Pat H. was involved with--Holland, France, or the Scandanvian countries can routinely work Britain (and vice versa) with very low power and simple equipment.

As for German spies in the US with radio gear, "Technical Topics" has covered some single-tube rigs of the same general sort already mentioned, but I got the impression that when in North America, they were used to communicate with submarines in the Atlantic--which could be a \*very\* short hop, especially early on, as German subs tended to hang close enough to the coast to see ships against lights along the shore.

My main BA rig happens to be a single-6L6 transmitter. Never worked Europe with it--Indianapolis to New Orleans is a pretty consistent path and typical of what one gets with a mediocre antenna, a center-fed Zepp laced up over our two-story house.

73,  
--Bobbi

KB9GKX "RJ" rbarmore@indy.net Roberta J. (Bobbi) Barmore  
FISTS #3388 \* G-QRP #10001 \* ARRL \* RSGB \* WIA  
Appreciator Of Vacuum-Tube Ham Gear and Vintage Keys

-----  
Message-ID: <36BE015A.3932CB64@ix.netcom.com>  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 15:10:50 -0600  
From: David Stinson <arc5@ix.netcom.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Pictures and the Reflector  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

It was an honest mistake I've made myself. Don't let the

aggrievation from some people get you down. The list is full of terrific and helpful people.

In the future, the best way to show the people on the list a photo is to upload it to your personal storage space provided by your internet provider. This is usually called "personal web page" space or some such-- your provider can give details. Netcom gives me space and I upload photos to it using FTP. Then, you write a message to the list and write a pointer in the message.

For example; If I'd like the BA list folks to see my company logo, I upload it and write a "pointer" to the file on a line by itself, like this:

<http://pw1.netcom.com/~arc5/arc5logo.jpg>

On most recent email software programs, this will be displayed as a "clickable" link to the photo. That way, the people who wish to see the photo can and you don't take up space on the BA server. Be sure to put some leading spaces. Otherwise, some browsers will interpret that as an instruction and automatically do a download.

73 DE Dave Stinson AB5S  
arc5@ix.netcom.com

-----  
From: CARRJJ@aol.com  
Message-ID: <1ed30b6b.36be02e7@aol.com>  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 16:17:27 EST  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Subject: Re: WW-II Radio scenario help needed by author  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 2/7/99 3:57:42 PM Eastern Standard Time, rbarmore@indy.net writes:

<< boatanchors@theporch.com >>

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The UK magazines Shortwave and Practical Wireless have carried articles on clandestine WWII transmitters. They are at

PW Publishing  
Arrowsmith Court, Station Approach

Broadstone, Poole, Dorset, BH15 8PW, England

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Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 18:05:00 -0800 (PST)  
Message-Id: <2.2.16.19990207180303.3eb79370@pop.igc.org>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
From: Dick Dillman <ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
Subject: CX Report

The Collins 30K-5 was standing tall on 40m keyed at a nice clip by the Boehme signing K6KPH and the 51J-4 was listening for calls beginning at 2000Z. Eight stations were worked but CX stations were thin upon the band. W7DRA was good enough to call with his DX-20 and ARC-5 setup, followed by WS4S in TN. I couldn't copy more than Conrad's call at first but then he generously fired up his Navy SRT-14 just for me and we had a fine QSO. Plus there was a 9 calling who I could not copy. Might that have been Bobbi? I would have loved to work more classic stations but anything that provides an excuse for getting the "ghost of KPH" on the air is fine with me.

Regards,

Dick

Dick Dillman  
<ddillman@igc.apc.org>  
WPE2VT W6AWO  
Collector Of Heavy Metal:  
Harleys, Willys and Radios Over 100lbs.

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Message-ID: <36BE58E7.467FA058@idirect.com>  
Date: Sun, 07 Feb 1999 22:24:23 -0500  
From: Jerry Proc <jproc@idirect.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
CC: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: WW-II Radio scenario help needed by author  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Roberta J. Barmore wrote:

> ...I am a little concerned that so small (low-powered) a transmitter  
> would be \*capable\* of reliable communication from the US to continental  
> Europe.

Hi Roberta,

Clue - What about the state of the sunspot cycle during the WW2 years?  
That  
would certainly have a lot of other implications such as ease of enemy  
radio  
traffic interception for both sides. Using 1995 as a sunspot "low" and  
continuous subtraction of 11 indicates that a sunspot low should have  
occurred  
in 1940. That would mean that propagation should have increased during  
the  
duration of the war. Seems I read something about that many years ago  
but just  
can't recall the details. Maybe it was in CQ Magazine.

Can anyone in the group verify the state of sunspot cycle during WW2  
years?

--

Regards,  
Jerry Proc VE3FAB jproc@idirect.com  
Web: www3.sympatico.ca/hrc/haida  
HMCS HAIDA Naval Museum, Toronto Ontario

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Message-Id: <103130303b2e40071dd3f@[199.34.24.21]>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 21:46:44 -0500  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
From: "Jay H. Miller" <jmiller@teleteam.net>  
Subject: 1952 Callbook Lookup?

Anybody have a 1952 (or thereabouts) Callbook that could look up a callsign  
for me?

Thanks

\*\*\*\*\* #\*\*\*\*\*# \*\*\*\*\*  
Jay H. Miller, KK5IM Dallas, Texas  
The Pocket Guide to Collins Amateur Radio Equipment  
ARRL \* AMI#846 \* DXCC  
E-Mail: jmiller@teleteam.net

Visit My Home Page: <http://www.teleteam.com/~jmiller/>  
\*\*\*\*\* Proud to be 100% Macintosh since 1984! \*\*\*\*\*

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From: JONWEINER@aol.com  
Message-ID: <7c4e5a3.36be5dad@aol.com>  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 22:44:45 EST  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Subject: Heathkit mic. question  
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII  
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Can someone tell me the model number of the Heathkit mic. that looks exactly like the Drake 7077 (I think) that's used with the TR-7? The Heath mic is light beige in color with a darker brown windscreen.

Jon, K1VVC

-----  
Message-Id: <199902080421.UAA13017@mail-gw.pacbell.net>  
From: "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: Interesting Transmitter Problem...  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 20:26:33 -0800  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Jack;

Sounds like you got married to your HX-50.....hi!

> I also notice that when I attach the scope probe to the plate of the 6EW6  
> bandpass amplifier, that the transmitter works correctly in that I can  
> control its output with the RF Drive control -- I assume that the scope  
is  
> loading down the circuit enough to attenuate the RF so that the final  
> output is controllable.

That sure sounds like an oscillating amplifier. The scope probe kills the oscillation. Check the placement of wiring, keep the plate and grid circuits as far apart as practical. Check that you are using low inductance bypass caps. Tack in ceramic disk caps in parallel with what's in there now. Keep leads short. Use a frequency counter to identify the free running oscillation, you can probably "sniff" the RF with a short length of wire going to the freq counter input. If you don't have any success with improving bypassing, install a resistor, something between 47

and 150 ohms in series with the 6EW6 control grid. A high value resistor across the grid or plate tank circuit, just enough to "de-Q" things slightly may also work. These are just some guesses, I'm not familiar with the rig.

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

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Message-Id: <199902080441.UAA23733@mail-gw.pacbell.net>  
From: "Arden Allen" <gumbear@pacbell.net>  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Cc: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Re: Converting L4-B to run an 8877  
Date: Sun, 7 Feb 1999 20:47:14 -0800  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Bobbi;

> > DO NOT DISASSEMBLE any ceramic tube. The ceramic material is made with  
> > Beryllium and the ceramic dust is highly toxic! Just leave it alone!  
>  
> John's comments are well-meant but you will usually \*not\* find  
> beryllium oxide ceramic used in \*air-cooled\* transmitting tubes. It's  
> just plain old ceramic, the exact same kind of stuff Coors cold-filters  
> beer with and makes HV insulators from. (And you thought they were  
> advertising to power crews! ...Okay, \*I\* did, you're probably brighter  
> than that).  
> \*Conduction\* \*cooled\* tubes (and some semiconductor devices and  
> high-power "chip" resistors) do use this stuff, which is very, very  
bad.....

I've run into various VHF power amp transistors fabricated with beryllium oxide and read all the warning signs and labels. The ceramic is very stable stuff and not dangerous to handle when doing ordinary installation and removal of devices. If for some unfortunate reason you have to work with broken BeO, it's not so much dust (unless you grid the stuff) you have to worry about but a possible tiny sliver of the stuff penetrating the skin and getting into the blood stream. It's poisonous and a very small amount can kill you. So, like when working with high voltage and other hazards, be careful.

Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA gumbear@pacbell.net

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Message-ID: <36BE656F.172A@vifp.monash.edu.au>  
Date: Mon, 08 Feb 1999 15:17:51 +1100



From: Morris Odell <morriso@vifp.monash.edu.au>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>  
Subject: Tube question  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi all,

A find at a recent sale prompts me to ask this question:

What governed the specifications for tubes and how comprehensive were (are) they? if someone wanted to make a tube of a given name, did it have to comply to an exact standard (like JEDEC) in all respects, or were functional criteria most important?

I found a "Trigon" brand 5V4G which is like no other 5V4G I've ever seen. The usual 5V4G is an indirectly heated full wave rectifier with a 5 volt heater connected to the cathode. The plates are rather flat with a minimal cavity around the cathode. This one is labelled 5V4G and has the same pin connections but the internal structure is a \*directly\* heated tube with quite large hollow plates a bit like a 5Y3 on steroids and four (yes, four) hairpins of filament in each anode assembly. The filaments are in parallel.

I don't really have the facilities to test this tube fully except for trying it in some piece of gear and it seems to work OK.

What gives here?

73 de Morris VK3DOC

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End of BOATANCHORS Digest 2420  
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